

Applicant : Michael A. Hooker
Appln. No. : 09/828,308
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REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application is requested.

Applicant notes with appreciation the Examiner's indication that claims 15, 16, 54 and 55 are allowed, and that claims 3, 10, 45 and 46 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claims 3, 10, 45 and 46 have been rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims, and are therefore now believed to be in condition for allowance.

Claim 60 was objected to due to a typographical error. Claim 60 has now been amended to read "20% and 40%", such that claim 60 is now believed to be in proper form.

Claims 1, 2, 4-9, 11-22, 38-44, 47-53 and 56-61 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Crawley et al. U.S. Patent No. 5,948,707 in view of Merry 5,524,531.

Applicant requests amendment of claims 1 and 38 to recite that the substrate is a polymer substrate that softens when heated, and that the substrate is heated to a temperature at which the substrate softens sufficiently to permit forming. Neither Crawley '707 nor Merry '531 are believed to be disclose or suggest such an arrangement, such that entry of the amendments would place all claims in condition for allowance.

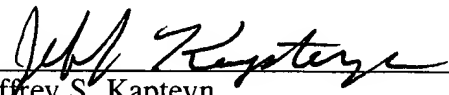
In the event there are any remaining informalities, the courtesy of a telephone call to the undersigned attorney would be appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,

MICHAEL A. HOOKER

By: Price, Heneveld, Cooper,
DeWitt & Litton, LLP

3/8/04
Date


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